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PCT CHAPTER II

**Re: Agent's File Reference A3-158 PCT
International Patent Application No. PCT/US03/31881
International Filing Date: 08 October 2003
Priority date: 25 October 2002
MEMORY CARD ADAPTER FOR CONNECTING A MINIATURE
CARD TO A STANDARD CARD CONNECTOR, ALONG WITH A
METHOD OF FABRICATING SAME**

ARTICLE 34 RESPONSE TO THE WRITTEN OPINION ISSUED UNDER RULE 66

Dear Sirs:

This communication is in response to the Written Opinion issued under PCT Rule 66 and mailed on 17 December 2004. Substitute sheet 8 of claims 1 and 2 are attached hereto for consideration and entry by the Examiner. This response is being transmitted by facsimile and a confirmation copy of this letter is being sent to the EPO by Express Mail.

In the Written Opinion, the Examiner indicated that “[t]he additional features of dependent claim 5 are neither known from, nor rendered obvious by, the documents cited in the International Search Report”. Accordingly, applicants have amended independent claim 1 to incorporate dependent claim 5 and the claims from which claim 5 depend(s) (i.e. claims 4 and 3).

In view of the foregoing, applicants now submit that the issues in this application have been resolved. A favorable IPER is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CLAIMS

1. An adapter (14) for a memory card connector to enable a miniature memory card (18) to be inserted into a larger, standard memory card connector (16), comprising:

a two-part housing means (26,28) of a size and shape to simulate a standard memory card and including an inner cavity (20) for receiving a miniature memory card (18), the housing means including a base housing (26) defining a substantial portion of said inner cavity and an inner housing (28) separate from and independent of the base housing; and

a plurality of terminals (48) stamped and formed of conductive sheet metal material, each terminal including a first contact portion (48a) at one end thereof for engaging an appropriate contact (24) on the standard memory card connector (16), a second contact portion (48c) at an opposite end thereof for engaging an appropriate contact (54) of the miniature memory card (18) and a mounting section (48d) between said opposite ends, the mounting sections of the terminals being press-fit into terminal-receiving passages (44) in the inner housing (28), the adapter characterized by

a reinforcing plate (56) supporting the base housing (26), wherein said inner housing (28) comprises an elongated bar, and said reinforcing plate (56) comprises a narrow band (58) running generally parallel to the inner housing, and

wherein said reinforcing plate (56) includes a lock member (68) engageable with the miniature memory card (18) inserted into the inner cavity (20).

2. The adapter of claim 1 wherein said inner housing (28) is integrally welded to the base housing (26).